

JORDAN TIMES

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U.N. Palestinian body to meet

UNITED NATIONS, New York, Feb. 20 (AFP). — The special committee set up by the General Assembly last month to handle the exercise of Palestinian rights will hold its first meeting next Thursday.

The Committee's brief is to work out a programme enabling Palestinians to implement their rights to self-determination without external interference and to independence and national sovereignty.

AMMAN, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1976 — SAFAR 22, 1396 A.H.

Price : 50 Fls

Rifai: Israel must talk peace with PLO

(Agencies, J.T.). — Minister Zaid Rifai told a newspaper Friday that he would invite the PLO to the Geneva peace conference. — Organisation of the Arab League. — Rifai said the PLO is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. — "If Israel is earnest in the statements of its leaders it should turn to the real representative of the Palestinian people and agree that the PLO should be invited to the peace conference in Geneva."

Mr Rifai said Israel's first step to prove the good intentions it professed would be to proclaim its readiness to give up all occupied Arab territory, including the whole of the Golan Heights, Sinai, Gaza and the West Bank, including the Arab sector of Jerusalem.



HITS HIM HARD. — Muhammad Ali lands a blow to the jaw of Jean Pierre Coopman during their world heavyweight boxing championship fight Friday night in San Juan, Puerto Rico, which Ali won in the fifth round. (See story page 3).

Arab resistance, Israeli reprisals, continue to dominate West Bank

AMMAN, (J.T.). — Arab travellers coming to Amman from the West Bank have told the Jordan Times that the continued Arab resistance effort there has provoked increased detention and arrest measures on the part of the Israeli authorities, and that in some cases Israeli military and police forces are using force to subdue demonstrations by Arab schoolchildren.

According to these reports, and information from sources close to the resistance effort on the West Bank, the most obvious step-up in Israeli reprisal and "preventive" activities has taken place in and around the town of Nablus.

As of late Saturday afternoon, Israeli military police units were scattered throughout the town pounding on doors of Arab homes and arresting "scores" of citizens in a "wide campaign" to stop demonstrations there.

Over 300 university and secondary students have been deported from the Nablus region during the past week, the sources say, and most of the students have been given six-month exit permits and forcibly taken to the Jordan River bridges where they crossed into Jordan.

According to these same sources, Friday night in Nablus has been dubbed "the night of the arrests."

At the Aishiyah Girls School in Nablus, Israeli police let loose several police dogs to quell a demonstration by the girls.

The schoolchildren retaliated by throwing stones at the policemen, who in turn threw several of the girls onto the ground and stepped on their faces.

In other incidents, policemen have stormed private homes of Arab citizens and beaten people they claim are instigators and organisers of the demonstrations that have engulfed the West Bank since an Israeli court ruled on January 29 that Israelis may pray at the Al Aqsa of the Israeli authorities, and Mosque in Occupied Jerusalem.

Special Israeli military courts have been set up throughout the West Bank and have held several night sessions to cope with the increasing number of arrested Arabs.

According to travellers from the area, 125 Arabs have been locked up in the Ramallah and Birah region, and 75 in Nablus.

The Arabs have routinely refused to pay the fines imposed by the Israeli military courts because the Arab population has refused to recognise the legitimacy of the courts.

Several schools remain shut down throughout the West Bank, and there are also reports that schoolteachers are being arrested along with their Arab students.

In Nablus, Israeli police units have taken up positions on rooftops throughout the city.

(Continued on page 6)

Sinai disengagement to be completed today

CAIRO, Feb. 21, (AFP). — Egyptian forces will Sunday complete their advance under the second Sinai disengagement agreement by moving to the sector south of the Gidi and Mitla passes, a military spokesman confirmed here today.

A brief ceremony at a wind-swept outpost Saturday marked the Israeli withdrawal from a part of the Sinai desert as agreed last September between Israel and Egypt.

Kissinger: U.S. recognises need for flexibility on M.E. peace procedures

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 21 (R). — Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said in a letter published here today that the United States was prepared to hold bilateral meetings with the Soviet Union, in advance of a preparatory conference aimed at a resumption of Geneva Middle East peace talks.

He was replying to one of two identical letters which U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim sent on January 27 to the two co-chairmen of the Geneva conference, the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

Dr. Kissinger recalled that the U.S. had already proposed a "preparatory conference of those who have participated so far in negotiations looking toward a settlement within the Geneva conference."

In his letter Dr. Kissinger said the U.S. had "repeatedly affirmed its recognition that there will be no permanent peace unless it includes arrangements that take into account the legitimate interests of the Palestinian people."

He said the U.S. recognised the need for a degree of flexibility on the procedures through which the momentum of the negotiating process might be maintained.

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, whose reply to Mr. Waldheim's letter was published on Wednesday, said the reconvening of the Geneva conference, with the participation of the PLO was the only reliable way of achieving agreement on all questions involved. He said that, "without participation" (Continued on page 6)

Sadat starts Gulf tour in S. Arabia

RIYADH, Feb. 21, (R). — President Anwar Sadat of Egypt began a state visit to Saudi Arabia today during which he is expected to seek more aid for his ailing economy and have important talks on Middle East peace moves with King Khalid.

The monarch led Saudi dignitaries to greet Mr Sadat at Riyadh airport when the Egyptian leader arrived heading a strong ministerial team including Prime Minister Mamedouh Salem.

Government sources in Cairo say that Mr Sadat will visit Abu Dhabi, Qatar, Bahrain and Kuwait after his five days in Saudi Arabia.

King Khalid's government has shown little enthusiasm for Egyptian policy on the Middle East dispute since Cairo concluded the American sponsored interim agreement with Israel last September.

This, observers think, may have contributed to a lukewarm response so far to a call by Mr Sadat for urgent Arab aid worth some 4,000 million dollars to help the Egyptian economy.

Lebanese cabinet moves to settle question of deserters

BEIRUT, Feb. 21 (AFP). — The Lebanese cabinet agreed here today on steps to settle the outstanding problem of soldiers deemed to have deserted during the nine-month civil war which ended a month ago.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami said that soldiers had until March 1 to return to their posts, adding that this did not apply to those who had committed individual murders unconnected with recent "events," or had carried out killings in barracks or military posts. But he gave no other details of the decisions.

The main problem is thought to be that of the new self-styled "Army of Arab Lebanon," formed in January by 33-year-old Lieutenant Ahmed Khatib, who accused his superiors of bias to conservative forces in the civil war.

He left with about 15 armoured vehicles and several dozen men, and his supporters say he has since received reinforcements.

Today's cabinet meeting was attended by the army Commander-in-Chief, General Hana Said. The cabinet is also studying emergency economic measures, and will meet again on Tuesday.

The Chamber of Deputies will begin a three-week special session on Monday, Mr. Karami announced.

Security sources meanwhile said tonight that four people were killed in the northern town of Tripoli today in a clash between Moslem gunmen of different groups.

They added that two of the four people kidnapped from a garage earlier in the day were freed.

Cypriot talks end with agreement to meet again in May

VIENNA, Feb. 21 (AFP). — Greek Cypriot negotiator Glafcos Clerides and Turkish Cypriot negotiator Rauf Denktaş today ended the fifth round of United Nations sponsored talks on the political future of Cyprus with an agreement to meet again in Vienna in May.

They issued a communique saying that they also agreed to meet in Cyprus with a special representative of U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim "in order to examine in a spirit of goodwill a number of humanitarian problems."

The communique said that during the five days of talks the negotiators "held substantive discussions on the territorial and constitutional issues" and that "it has been agreed that an exchange of written proposals through the special representative of the Secretary General (Perez de Cuellar) will take place in Cyprus within the next six weeks."

It said they will meet again in May "with a view to establishing a common basis prior to referring the matter to mixed committees in Cyprus."

Observers said Mr Waldheim had managed to persuade both sides to go further than before into the basic problems without insisting on preconditions.

"We have certainly made progress," the U.N. Secretary-General said.

"For one thing, we have agreed in clear terms on the future procedure of negotiations, which was up to now completely open. This shows a determination to keep the negotiations moving."

Nixon start China visit

Feb. 21, (R). — President Richard Nixon is to begin a co-voyage to the little-known Mr Hua to the outside world and show that, despite internal problems, its basic foreign policy will not be changed.

Senior Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping, who had been expected to succeed Mr Chou En-lai as Premier following the death of Mr Chou En-lai, was making his first appearance since the announcement two months ago that he had been appointed premier following the death of Mr Chou En-lai.

There has been no reaction from American critics who say the visit may damage Ford's chances in the forthcoming primary election Tuesday.

Some have speculated that he may use the occasion to establish full relations.

SECOND TRIP. — Former U.S. President Richard Nixon (centre) and his wife Pat are accompanied by Chinese Ambassador to Japan Chen Chu as the Nixons' board their plane in Tokyo heading for their China visit.



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A timely trip

There is some significance that the Egyptian-Israeli Sinai disengagement agreement; border adjustments will be completed on the same day, today, Sunday, that a new United Nations envoy sets off for another tour of the Middle East. The envoy of Mr. Waldheim, Mr. Guyer, aims to visit Israel, Egypt, Jordan and Syria, and will probably have talks with PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

The Israelis apparently believe they can disregard the Sinai front for the next several years, insofar as the latest agreement commits Egypt to a policy of non-belligerency that effectively eliminates the Sinai front from Israeli war calculations.

If this is so, and one suspects that President Sadat is too anxious to strengthen his new American connection to simply tear up the Sinai agreement and go to war again, then Israel sits tight without much worry of a war on any front. This is because a war without Egypt is not much of a war at all, and everybody knows it.

Now that the latest Kissinger-inspired move in the Middle East situation has been completed, what happens next? The U.N. envoy's trip is a sign that Mr. Waldheim is worried about the possibility of war breaking out in the Middle East if there is no further progress towards peace. His worry is partly justified, but for the wrong reasons that he and others probably believe.

The general suspicion around the world is that the Arabs will start another war if there is no further progress towards peace, but progress that includes the lynchpin element of Palestinian justice in a peace deal.

The fact is, the Sinai agreement and Mr. Sadat's vulnerable arms supply situation have effectively cut off the Arab war option. Egyptian relations with Moscow are cool as ever, and the likelihood of the Soviets resupplying the Egyptians to the point where they could initiate and sustain a long war is unlikely.

So where's the threat to war? There is one, of course, but it comes from Israel. Internally, the Israelis face a whole series of difficult dilemmas and some very serious economic problems. Their immigration rate is so low and the emigration outflow so high they fear 1976 will end up with a net outflow of people. To them, this signals the beginning of the end of the grand Zionist experiment in Palestine.

As always, the Israelis have one thing they can always fall back on (not counting war bonds, tax-free philanthropic confusion in the U.S. and the ever-ready friends of Israel in Congress). This option, of course, is war, and it is no coincidence that Israel thinks it has always emerged from a war in better shape than when it went in.

So if Mr. Waldheim's envoy is here to talk about peace, he should ask the Israelis when they will consider talking to the only people in the world who can offer them peace, the Palestinians. And if he is interested in discussing war, he should also ask the Israelis why they need more sophisticated and destructive weapons from the United States at a time when the Arab states have been deprived of the full war option by a stroke of Mr. Sadat's pen.

If Mr. Guyer gets answers from Israel, then he'll have something to do when he visits the Arab states. Otherwise, he might as well stay home.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

The negotiations proposed by the Israeli premier between Israel and Jordan is addressed to the wrong party at the wrong time Al-Ra'i said.

The Israeli "declaration" that Israel has decided to resume negotiations with Jordan is another way of evading the real problem, the paper added.

Al-Ra'i questioned why Israel had chosen Jordan.

Jordan has nothing to negotiate on, the paper said. It is understood that the Arab stand in any forthcoming negotiations will be based on two principles:

1. The core of the Middle East problem is a question of existence rather than of borders. If the Americans along with the Israelis realise this fact, they will also realize that the solution lies in the hands of the Palestinians and their legal representative the P.L.O.
2. The site for negotiations is Geneva and nowhere else. The question was settled when the U.S. vetoed the recent Security Council resolution and when Israel made its new "offer" for negotiations. If Israel is really looking for peace, then as Mr. Zeid Rifa'i said, it ought to recognise the rights of the Palestinians to exist as a people and to meet with their legitimate representative at Geneva, Al-Ra'i concluded.

The expected visit of the U.N. Secretary General's special envoy to the area will be wasted unless the envoy stresses the need for the implementation of U.N. resolutions on the Arab-Israeli problem, particularly the Security Council resolution calling on Israel to withdraw from all occupied Arab territories, Addustour said.

The envoy's mission will be affected to a certain extent by the American and Soviet stands on the question in addition to the Israeli one the paper said. Ad Dustour said that the stand of the United States will be reflected in Israel's position on the U.N. envoy's mission. It is understood this mission will be another attempt to lead the area on the path to peace. However, real peace means a just peace and that ultimately hinges on the Arabs' determination to liberate their homeland and restore their legitimate rights, Ad Dustour concluded.

British Airways starts Amman-London VC10 Superflight service

By LINA GRESS

The British Airways Superflight VC10 made its first happy landing in Amman Saturday to a welcome by a group of Jordanian and British dignitaries.

"We encourage foreign planes to come to Jordan; this will make Jordan and our cultural heritage known to the world in addition to promoting tourism," said the Director-General of Tourism Mr. Ghaleb Abu Jaber in a welcoming airport speech.

The British Airways Deputy Chief Executive, Mr. Basil Bamfylde, who arrived on the inaugural flight declared: "We shall operate in cooperation with the Jordanian Government and the national airlines Alia."

The British Ambassador in Amman, Mr. John Moberly said: "The decision of British Airways to come here is another example of the great interest and renewed confidence in the development and progress of

Jordan now being shown by many commercial concerns in Britain."

From the Jordanian point of view, the well-known businessman Mr. Tewfik Kattan, who is also on the BA Board of Agents, thinks that the Superflight VC 10 to Amman will make large economic cooperation between Jordan and Britain, in addition to increasing touristic activities.

The Director-General of Alia, Mr. Ali Ghandour said for his part: "cooperation, not competition, shall be our motto."

Mr. Ghandour further explained that an additional flight will widen the bridge between Jordan and the United Kingdom and increase opportunities for the exchange of travel, trade and technology between the two countries.

The BA flight also brought Miss Superflight, Roz Hanby, whose face adorns all BA advertisements.



Roz Hanby

Roz Hanby, 23, has been a stewardess for three years and was chosen in 1975 from among 200 women to be the British Airways ambassador to promote the airline's interests on TV, in cinema and the press, as well as to go round the world on inaugural and other special flights.

5th Arab conference on health starts today

AMMAN. — The fifth Arab Health Ministers Conference starts here Sunday to discuss coordination of the Arab stand at the coming meetings of the World Health Organisation General Assembly (WHO) scheduled for May in Geneva.

The conferees will also discuss medical aid for Lebanon and support for the health services of the Palestinian revolution. The establishment of an Arab Pharmaceutical company is also on the agenda of the 4-day conference.

Delegations from Egypt, Oman, Qatar, Sudan and Libya arrived here Saturday to participate in the conference. The regional director of WHO and representatives from the Arab Economic Unity Council were also among Saturday's arrivals. Acting Minister of Health Dr. Mohammad

Adhoub Zebe was present at Amman airport to welcome various delegations.

Jordan, Germany sign air accord

AMMAN, Feb. 21. — and West Germany today signed an agreement to av-

able taxation on the income of the two countries' airlines including their officials.

The agreement was signed by Mr. Mahmoud Al-Haydar, Jordanian Minister of

Transport, and Herr Horst, the West German ambassador here.

WHAT'S GOING

If you know of an item which would interest others, please phone 61 between 10.00—14.00.

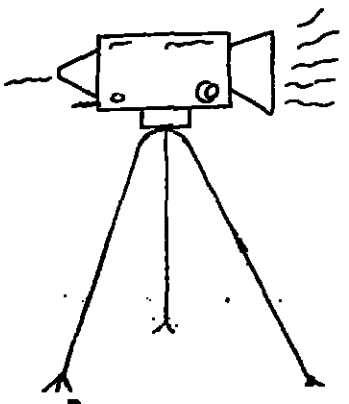
Car for Sale

OWNER LEAVING

VOLVO 122S - 1966. Customs unpaid.

4 doors, white colour, for J.D. 410 or nearest offer.

TEL. 65357 — AMMAN.



Cinema RAINBOW

TEL 25155
PROUDLY PRESENTS

Desperate Characters

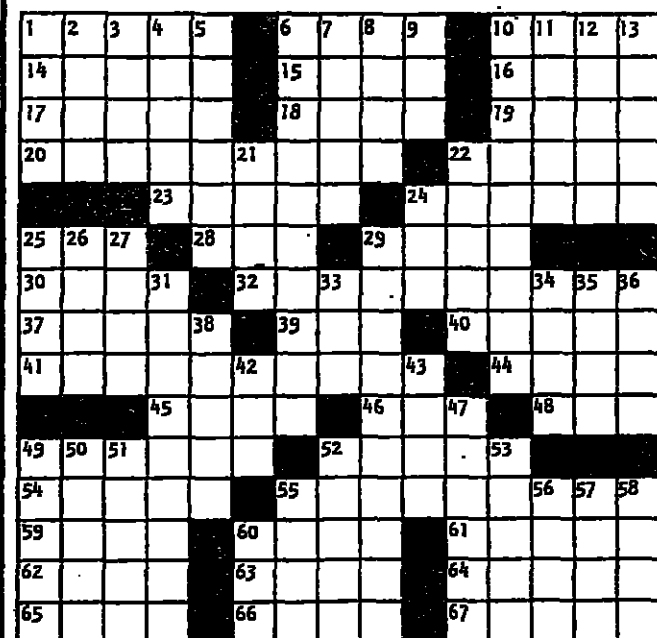
Starring:

SHIRLEY MCLAIN

KENNETH MARS

Show time 3.30, 6.00, 8.30
Additional shows on Friday & Sunday 10.30am

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1 Find fault without good reason
- 6 Second
- 10 Comparison word
- 14 Genus of oats
- 15 Marco
- 16 Casino city
- 17 Fortification
- 18 Beyond the
- 19 Dismounted
- 20 Conveys
- 22 Folklore dwarf
- 23 Deserves
- 24 Sewed temporarily
- 25 Paid notices
- 28 Spread for drying
- 29 Chain
- 30 Imposed
- 32 Sanctuary
- 37 Moves gradually
- 39 Pike-like fish
- 40 Earnest
- 41 Trust
- 44 To be Lat.
- 45 Suffix of inflammation

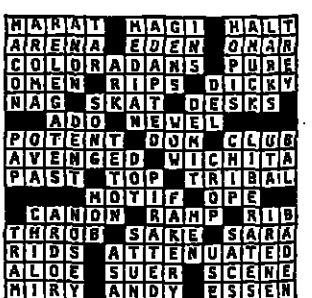
- 46 State further
- 48 Beige
- 49 Placed at intervals
- 52 "Get Your Gun"
- 54 Phonetic sound
- 55 Found
- 59 English princess
- 60 City in Italy
- 61 Sacred scripture
- 62 Astonish
- 63 And others: 2 wds.
- 64 King of Thebes
- 65 Lame
- 66 Wax
- 67 Double curves

DOWN

- 1 Two-wheeled vehicle
- 2 Asseverate
- 3 Ann Borg
- 4 Silly
- 5 East Indian fruit
- 6 Adjuncts
- 7 Wild hogs
- 8 Building wings

- 9 Shoe part
- 10 Render
- 11 Slave
- 12 Resin used in varnish
- 13 Famous
- 21 Guitar part
- 22 Capital
- 24 Legal profession
- 25 Waugh
- 26 Part of a pedestal
- 27 Indication
- 29 Related to trading
- 31 Lacking
- 33 Prohibit
- 34 List of players
- 35 Kirk
- 36 Pleasure garden
- 38 Locations
- 42 Performed
- 43 Best
- 47 Bulb-planting tool
- 49 Long deep cut
- 50 Five: Comb. form
- 51 Cancel

- 52 "Is Born": 2 wds.
- 53 Howe
- 55 Italian family
- 56 Wading bird
- 57 Swing around
- 58 Nazi leader
- 60 Nuclear overseers: Abbr.



Television

CHANNEL 3 & 6 :

- 6.00 Quran
- 6.10 Cartoons
- 6.30 Arabic series
- 8.00 News in Arabic
- CHANNEL 3 :
- 7.30 Development programme
- 8.30 Arabic series

9.30 Wrestling

- CHANNEL 6 :
- 7.30 News in Hebrew
- 7.45 Varieties
- 8.30 And mother makes five
- 9.00 Mounthatten
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.15 Hawaii 5-0 (on both channels)

Amman Airport

DEPARTURES :

- 7.20 Beirut
- 8.45 Beirut (M.E.A.)
- 12.00 Cairo (E.A.)
- 13.30 Riyadh (Saudi)
- 19.00 Bahrain, Bangkok
- 19.30 Abou Dhabi, Karachi
- 20.30 Tehran
- 21.00 Jeddah
- 21.30 Baghdad, Kuwait
- ARRIVALS :
- 9.50 Beirut
- 11.00 Cairo (E.A.)

12.30 Jeddah, Madina (Saudi)

- 16.00 Rome
- 16.30 Paris
- 16.55 London
- 17.20 Copenhagen, Frankfurt
- 17.30 Casablanca, Madrid, Athens
- 17.30 Cairo
- 17.35 Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva
- 18.30 Beirut, (M.E.A.)

Radio

[ON 886 KHZ]

- 7.00 Breakfast show.
- 7.30 News Bulletin
- 7.45 Morning Melodies
- 12.00 Pop session (part I)
- 13.00 News Summary
- 13.03 Pop session (part II)
- 14.00 News Bulletin
- 14.10 Radio magazine
- 14.30 Opera in Germany
- 15.00 Classical Music
- 15.30 Light Instrumentals
- 16.00 Old Favourites
- 16.30 Easy listening
- 17.00 Studio one
- 18.00 News Summary
- 18.05 Listener's choice
- 19.00 News Bulletin
- 19.10 News reports
- 19.30 Sign off.

Market Price

- Apples (Double Red) 200—240
- Apples (Golden) 110—150
- Apples (Starken) 120—180
- Bananas 150—180
- Bell Pepper 100—120
- Beets 50—65
- Cabbage 40—60
- Cauliflower 40—70
- Chestnuts 300—330
- Carrots (Yellow) 50—70
- Carrots (Black) 50—70
- Cucumbers (Small) 300—340
- Cucumbers (Large) 200—250
- Grapefruit 35—50
- Garlic 60—80
- Lemon (Large) 80—120
- Lettuce 80—90
- Lettuce (Small) 30—50
- Hot Pepper 300—340
- Horse Beans 100—140
- Marrow (Small) 90—120
- Mandarines 60—75
- Onion 120—150

- Oranges (French) 70—100
- Oranges 80—110
- Oranges (Naval) 80—120
- Potatoes (Imported) 70—
- Potatoes (Local) 80—100
- Potatoes (Sweet) 40—55
- String Beans 150—190
- Tangerines 50—90
- Tomatoes 80—90

Tonight's Emergencies

DOCTORS :

- Ali Hawameh (23942)
- Mustapha Affaneh (56344)
- PHARMACIES :
- Habayeh (42930)
- Jerusalem (21370)
- Jabal Annas (56728)
- Jala' (24228)
- TAXIS :
- Khayyam (41541)
- Firas (23437)
- Al Mahd (22038)

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Mercenaries return to U.K. to face public inquiry over killings

AMMAN, Feb. 21, (R). — Those of the 200 or so British mercenaries who did get to the battle front suffered heavy casualties.

Survivors told of facing Russian-built T-54 tanks with out-of-date rocket launchers. They told of Cuban soldiers pushing forward in waves, regardless of casualties.

One returning mercenary John Banks, charged that much of the money intended to buy equipment wound up in the pockets of British gangsters.

The 27-year-old Banks was himself a leading organiser of the mercenary recruiting. He helped run an agency called Security Advisory Services whose function was to enlist Britons for foreign wars. In a climate of high unemployment, recruits readily came forward to hire 'out' their services in exchange for \$300 a week.

The men set off confidently, pursued to airport departure lounges by sceptical newsmen. Once in Zaire on their way to the battle zone they found themselves hastily kitted out and pushed into a type of combat few had ever experienced or trained for.

Professional military observers believed that even a well-trained and heavily equipped force would have had trouble stemming the Cuban advance by the time they arrived on the scene in January.

Once back in Britain after only two weeks abroad, the crestfallen mercenaries were closely questioned by detectives.

There was some suggestion of prosecuting any mercenaries known to have taken part in executing their comrades. But this idea was quickly dropped after government experts examined the host of legal pitfalls.

The idea of outlawing mercenary recruiters also seemed fraught with difficulty. Under British law nobody except bankrupts and suspected criminals can be prevented from leaving the country.

The last spate of mercenary recruiting in Europe was for the Congo struggles of the 1960s. If some British politicians have their way the day of the soldier of fortune will be ended for good.



THE CHAMP. — Muhammad Ali (right) talks to reporters in San Juan, Puerto Rico, after defeating Belgian contender Jean Pierre Coopman (left) in the fifth round.

Ali pounds Coopman - KO retains boxing crown

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO, Feb. 21, (R). — The world heavy weight crown was still the prized possession of Muhammad Ali today after the champion knocked out an outclassed Jean Pierre Coopman in the fifth round at the Roberto Clemente Coliseum here last night.

In a bout that had been labelled a mismatch from the day it was announced, Ali finished the Belgian stonemason with the first hard right he threw in the fight.

The end came after two minutes, 46 seconds of the fifth round when Coopman was unable to make it to his feet after Ali had landed a lightning-quick left hook and right cross combination to the head.

The 29-year-old Belgian went into a slow-motion descent. He grasped the middle rope for a second or two and then slumped further forward with both hands on the canvas.

Ali had justified the match by saying he deserved an easy title defence after the brutal slugging match against Joe Frazier in Manila last October 1.

Now Ali wants to fight American Jimmy Young.

Promoter Don King, who staged last night's match, said he was trying to match Ali and Young for late April in San Jose, Costa Rica.

It was Ali's fifth successful defence in his current reign, for which Don King paid him one million dollars. Coopman's purse was 75,000 dollars—about 10 times more than he earned for a year.

Two other proposals being mooted are a return to Geneva without the PLO (the Israeli position), or making PLO participation the first item on the agenda of a reconvened Geneva conference without the PLO (the Egyptian formula).

A vaguer suggestion that would reportedly have American backing would be to enter the question of PLO participation on the conference agenda.

Diplomatic sources here said it was possible, even probable, that Mr Guyer would meet PLO Leader Yasser Arafat.

They said the new mission showed Dr Waldheim's concern that the situation should not worsen dangerously because of lack of attempts to break the current impasse.

Waldheim M.E. peace envoy begins mission on Monday

UNITED NATIONS, New York, Feb. 21, (AFP). — The United Nations today announced a four-country Middle East tour by Special Political Affairs Under-Secretary-General Roberto Ghyer.

From Monday he will visit N. Yemen requests \$750 m for health projects

AMMAN, Feb. 21. — North Yemen's Health Minister, Dr. Abdul Malik Mohammed Abdullah, has appealed to Arab states to provide 750 million U.S. dollars to help resolve his country's health problems, the newspaper 'Al-Ra'i' said here today.

In an interview with 'Al-Ra'i' Dr. Abdullah said Yemen was suffering from endemic diseases, including malaria, tuberculosis and malnutrition.

Middle East peace conference, inquiring in particular into the possibility of reconvening the conference.

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko replied a week ago, saying the conference should reopen after adequate preparation and with the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Syria also wants PLO participation.

U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's answer was delivered tonight and passed on to Dr Waldheim in Vienna. The contents were not disclosed. An American source said it contained nothing new and reiterated the already-known U.S. view.

The U.S. has suggested in the past that a preliminary unofficial meeting of all the interested states be held, excluding

Kuwait, Bahrain sign tariffs pact

BAHRAIN, Feb. 21 (R). — Kuwait and Bahrain agreed today to drop customs duties on goods manufactured by each other, it was officially announced here today.

A Bahraini government spokesman said this was decided at the end of talks between a Bahraini delegation and a Kuwaiti mission which is on an 11-day tour of the Gulf.

He said the two sides also signed a protocol to co-operate on a number of industrial projects in the two countries, but did not give details.

Qatar celebrates its fourth anniversary of rule under Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Hamad Al Thani



halifa pictured during his trip to Iran last year with



Sheikh Khalifa and H.M. King Hussein.



Sheikh Khalifa and French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing during the Emir's trip to France in 1975.

marks the fourth anniversary of the ascension to Qatar of His Highness of Qatar-Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Hamad Al Thani, whose reign began on February 22, 1972, capped by orderly progress of the country and the movement of His Highness.

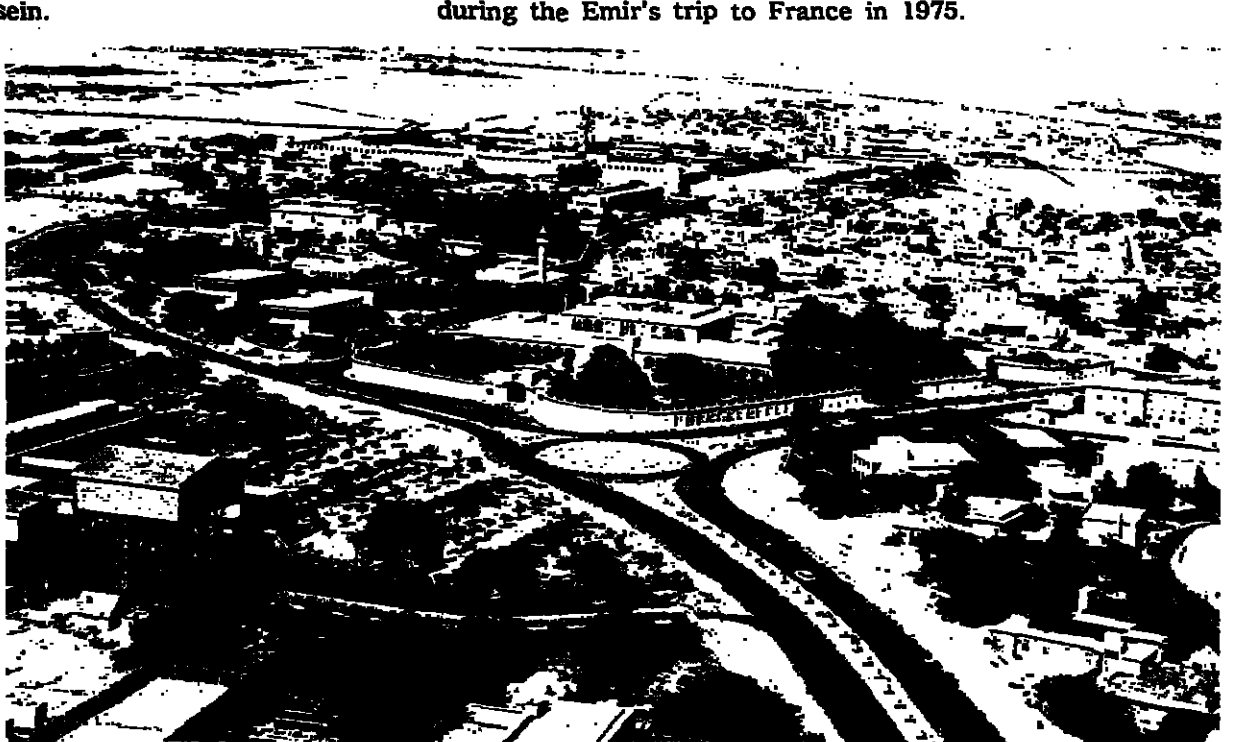
Since its independence in September 1971, the state of Qatar has charted a course for itself based on its responsibilities towards its brothers throughout the Arab World and its responsibilities in the international community of nations.

The state has moved ahead with achievements in the fields of development, human resources and political planning and consolidation, with a particular eye on Qatar's key role and location in the Gulf region. As the Emir himself said recently: "The Arabian Peninsula and its wing, the Arabian Gulf, have been a monumental and inexhaustible reservoir of Arab strength throughout history."

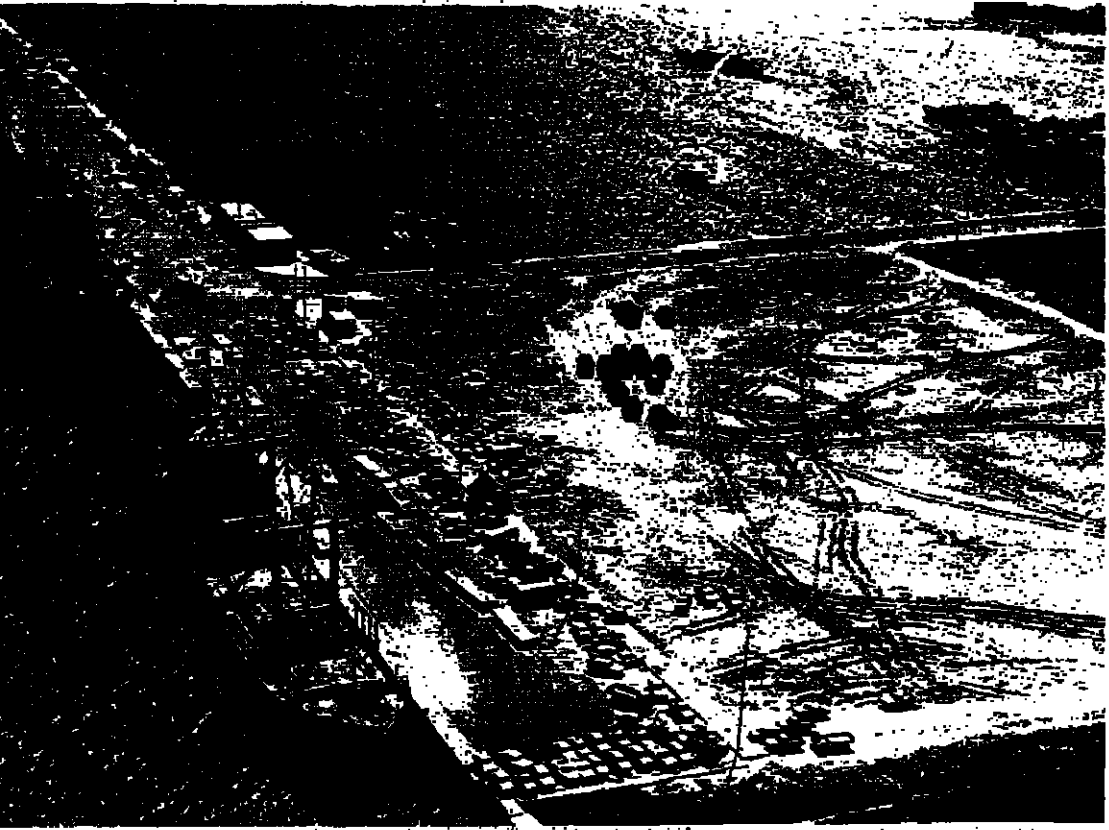
has actively directed his country's political and economic policies in all fields. He has recently made official state visits to France, Iran, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Iraq, Morocco and Tunisia.



Mr. Hamad Ibn Muhammad Ibn Jaber Al Thani, Qatar's Ambassador to Jordan.



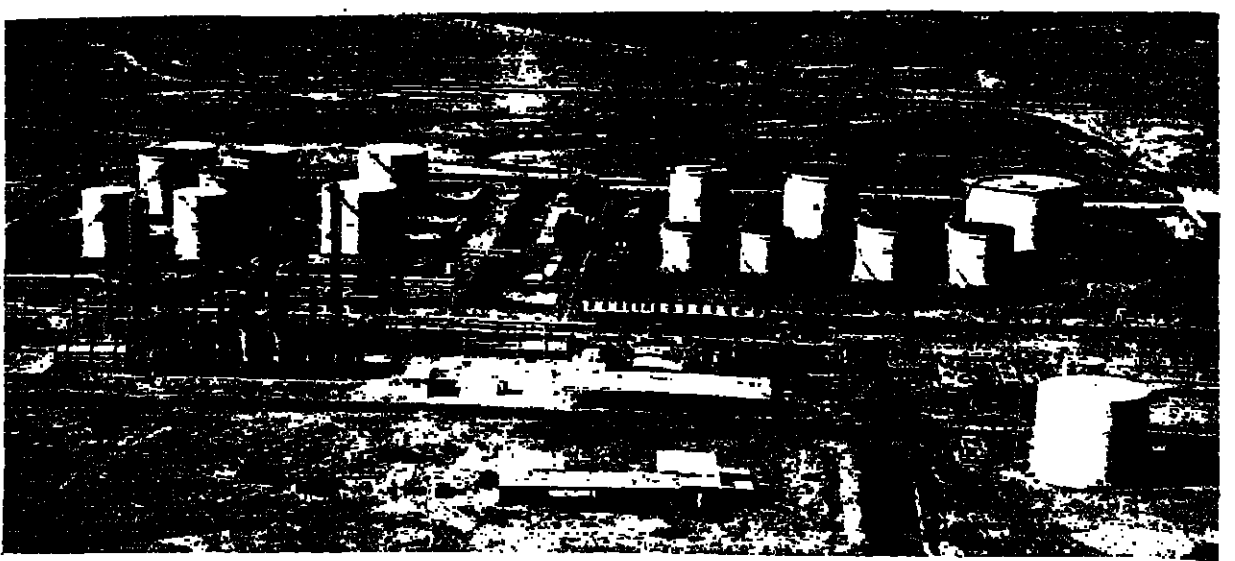
A view of some new roadwork in Qatar.



of some cargo ships docked at Doha port, Qatar's main sea link with the world.

On all levels and in all fields, Qatar has assumed its responsibilities as a member of the Arab League, the United Nations, OPEC and OAPEC.

In the words of Sheikh Khalifa himself: "Genuine cooperation in the task of construction is the only way... the pursuit of this goal with due awareness, sincerity and perseverance is the best guarantee for the achievement of our highest objectives: the consolidation of our strength and steadfastness, continued progress, and development."



Tanks dominate the Umm Sa'id petroleum refinery, one of Qatar's major industrial schemes.

Concorde owners pleased with first month's performance

PARIS, Feb. 21 (AFP). — One Airways have been 'running in' month after going into service, their new services under the critical gaze of their rivals. The Anglo-French Concorde supersonic airliner continues its round-the-world obstacle race.

As the plane's adversaries in the United States prepare a further attack, tough negotiations have been going on in Geneva among airlines using the Concorde and the other companies about North Atlantic fares.

At airports where the plane takes off and lands — London, Bahrain, Paris-Roissy, Dakar and Rio de Janeiro — airlines who do not have the supersonic airliner have been carefully noting the number of passengers entering and leaving it, and the arrival and departure times.

Thus Air France and British

for British Airways.

regular flights between Paris and Rio and between London and Bahrain.

Technically as well as commercially, Air France seems to have started better than British Airways.

Air France President Pierre Giraudeau said a day or two ago that he was "satisfied with the excellent regularity" of the plane.

Commercially, Air France has achieved an occupancy factor of 71 per cent (paying passengers) compared with 55.8 per cent for British Airways.

The French airline did best on the Rio run with a factor of 80.5 per cent, but it achieved only 61 per cent on the way back.

Henry Marking Managing-Director of British Airways, has said the Bahrain traffic has been better than expected. Incidentally, he has also denied a press report that this service would soon be halted because of poor financial results.

Mr. Marking recalled that his company had never expected the run to Bahrain to give a financial return, and he noted that this distance was the first stage in a hoped-for service to Australia.

The British airline admits it is losing around £800 on the

two-way trip each time.

Meanwhile the British authorities are continuing their discussions with a view to extending the service to Singapore and Melbourne.

India has said that the Concorde can fly over its territory provided it remains at subsonic speed. Australia is expected to make its views known shortly, and aviation sources say the Australian authorities could copy the United States and allow the plane to use its airports for a trial period of 16 months.

Air France will on April 9 start a second service from Paris to Caracas with a stopover in the Azores, taking half the usual time to do the journey.

The British and French airlines are getting ready to fly the Concorde to the United States following the Feb. 4 authorisation to land in America for the 16-month trial period.

The Federal approval is applicable to Washington's Dulles Airport and not to New York Kennedy.

The New York and New Jersey State Legislatures have been



PUSH BUTTON GARDENING: If one's gardening enthusiasm exceeds one's energy, an English company comes to the rescue with an allround cultivator. Change the tool and it will weed, hoe, ridge and rake at the flick of an electric switch.

Northrop reveal connection with foreign pay-off

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 21 (AP). — A major U.S. defence contractor disclosed today that its subsidiaries paid out \$1 million in commissions without its knowledge or authority.

Northrop Corporation said the payments were made in Italy, Greece, Portugal, and Turkey.

It named the firm as Europa S.P.A., of Rome, subsidiary of the Northrop Page Communications Inc. All the staff involved in the payments may have been subject to applicable laws.

It said it had informed U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Northrop is one of a group of giant American defence contractors engulfed in a row over foreign pay-offs. It has already been accused of paying out \$30 million in commissions and bribes to foreign officials and agents.

Northrop said the Page Communications Inc. payments were related to its communications and U.S. government contracts.

Iran says she will supply oil to a foreign buyer

TEL AVIV, Feb. 21 (R). — Shah of Iran was quoted as saying his country would supply oil to any customer without the destination of the oil.

In what was said to be the first interview granted by the Shah since he reported to have told a respondent of the paper Aharonot:

"We will supply oil to any country which sends it to our ports. We will not restrict the destinations of the oil."

Since the return of the Rudels oil fields in Sinai, Egyptians two months ago have been obtaining crude oil supplies from Iran according to reports here.

From 1967 to 1975 the oil wells were supplying 60 per cent of Israel's oil.

The Shah was quoted as saying he had always told "You cannot remain permanently on territory captured from others."

"Any Middle East agreement must be based on security Council resolution 242 — that means recognition of the borders of states, which includes Israel as well," he was saying.

Advertisement for prequalifications of contractors

Aqaba Port Expansion Project Jordan

1. The Ministry of Transport of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan intends to invite Tenders from a limited number of suitably qualified contractors for the following contracts which are to be carried out as part of the Aqaba Port Expansion project:

2. The work involves the construction of:

A. GENERAL CARGO BERTHS AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES

This contract will probably comprise the following works:

- (i) The construction of four general cargo berths, each 180 m long. The form of construction will be steel and/or concrete piles with a reinforced concrete deck.
- (ii) The reclamation of land by the deposition of filling material obtained from land borrow areas.
- (iii) The construction of berthing facilities for Roll-on/Roll-off vessels.
- (iv) The construction of four transit sheds and a cold store.
- (v) The construction of roads, open storage areas, services and other minor works.

This contract will provide for all the works to be completed within a maximum period of 24 months contract period, but there will be an additional requirement that two of the general cargo berths shall be completed and brought into service within maximum period of 18 months of the award of the contract.

B. EXTENSIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE LIGHTER WHARF AREA.

This contract will probably comprise the following works:

- (i) The provision of a northwards extension of the Lighter Wharf area involving the construction of up to 150 meters of quay wall using steel sheet piles: the reclamation of land to form storage areas by the deposition of filling material obtained from land borrow areas as well as services and other minor works.
- (ii) The redevelopment of the existing Lighter Wharf area involving the demolition of existing buildings: the construction of roads and paved storage areas and alterations to services.
- (iii) The construction of a new cargo storage area to the east of the Lighter Wharf area involving earth moving and the construction of roads, paved storage areas and services.

The contract will provide for the Northwards Extension of the Lighter Wharf area to be completed within 9 months of the award of the contract.

3. The foregoing descriptions of contracts are intended merely to give an indication of the nature and scope of work which may be included in the contracts. The Ministry of Transport reserves the right to vary from the foregoing descriptions in the nature and scope of work actually included in tender documents.

4. Contractors with relevant experience who wish to be given the opportunity to tender for each or both contracts should apply in the first instance to the Ministry of Transport, P.O. Box 1929, Amman, Jordan, for forms giving details of the information to be submitted for prequalification purposes. These forms will be issued to interested firms on and after 25th February, 1976. They must be filled in 3 copies and in English and returned to the Ministry of Transport with all the necessary information and supporting documentation by 12 noon on 1st April 1976.

5. For any further information about the above works, contractors may contact the Consulting Engineers — Parsons Brown and Newton/Jouzy and Partners — Joint Venture in Amman or London.

PARSONS BROWN & NEWTON,
22 Greencoat Place,
Westminster — London SW1
U.K.

JOUZY AND PARTNERS,
P.O. Box 9112,
Tel. 63902,
Amman, JORDAN.

6. The Ministry of Transport will notify contractors who have successfully qualified to bid for the work and supply them with information regarding the preparation of bids. Reason for rejection of applicants for prequalification will not be given.

Coleman has no fear of Concorde

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (AFP). — Transport Secretary William Coleman, who has authorised a 16-month test period for Concorde landings in the U.S. is not personally worried about the risk of supersonic flights causing skin cancer.

Questioned on this point by Senate investigators who suggested that Concorde could upset the protective ozone layer around the earth, Mr. Coleman replied philosophically:

"No. I have no problem with skin cancer. I am black and it only affects whites."

presented with a bill that would ban landings by supersonic aircraft.

The board of the Port Authority of New York, which has the final say, is due to meet on Mar. 11 and 12 to discuss the subject.

In Geneva, airline chiefs have been looking at North Atlantic fares for the Concorde from April 1 onwards. Air France and British Airways are asking that a proposed surcharge for the Concorde be something between five and 10 per cent, whereas other airlines want between 20 and 40 per cent.

Failing agreement, the British and French governments are likely to fix the fares themselves.

Price rise rate cut in half

LONDON, Feb. 21, (LPS). — British retail prices are now going up less than half as quickly as they were in the middle of last year. According to the most reliable indicator, the rate of increase on an annual basis is now well under 14 per cent, compared with 35 per cent last June.

The mid-January retail price index, says the Department of Employment, shows a 23.4 per cent rise in the twelve months since January of last year. This is the lowest twelve-month rise recorded since last April.

ECONOMIC BRIEFS

● CAIRO. — The United Nations granted Egypt \$15 million for rebuilding the Suez Canal zone.

● BUDAPEST. — Hungary has won a contract to build a 500 km. railway from Tripoli, Libya, to the Tunisian border town of Sfax.

● NEW DELHI. — India has agreed to supply \$630 million worth of iron ore slurry to Iran. The supplies would begin after four and a half years and be spread over a period of 20 years.

● TOKYO. — China has informed Japan of its decision to cut its supply of crude oil by half in February, oil industry sources said today. Under the decision, Chinese oil supply to Japan this month will now total about 250 thousand tons as compared with the originally planned 500 thousand tons.

Another version of the price index, which excludes the prices of seasonal (mainly fresh) foodstuffs, and shows the percentage increase over six-month periods, shows a drop in the inflation rate for the seventh month running. The 6.6 per cent increase registered to mid-January is equivalent to 13.7 per cent at an annual rate, and is the lowest six-month rise in this index for two years.

The main all-items retail price index is now being affected by the unusually sharp rise in the price of potatoes, because of last year's dry weather. This accounted for more than one quarter of the latest rise in the index. Even so, the downward trend in the rate continued for the fifth successive month—and the fall continued to steepen. Between August and December last year the twelve-monthly rate rise fell by two per cent, and between December and January by 1.5 per cent. This last was the biggest annual-rate decline in one month since the start of 1962, when the index was put on to its present basis.

However, it is the non-seasonal foods index which is regarded as the more sensitive indicator of the current underlying trend of inflation. Here the 6.6 per cent rise registered in January—equivalent to an annual rate of 13.7 per cent—marks an improvement on the identical figure recorded in December, since the latter reflects a 25-week period whereas the January percentage covers 26 weeks.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official Amman exchange rates at the close of the business day yesterday. The two figures denote buying and selling prices in Jordanian fils:

U.S. dollar : 329—331
U.K. sterling : 668—674
French franc : 736—739
Swiss franc : 128.7—129.1

German mark : 128.8—129.2
Iraqi dinar : 905—910
Kuwaiti dinar : 1120—1123
Libyan dinar : 715—735
Algerian dinar : 42.5—45.2
Saudi riyal : 92.9—93.2
Syrian pound : 84.8—85.7
Egyptian pound : 460—470
Lebanese pound : 134.7—135.6
UAE dirham : 82.6—83

Tonight's TV Features

HAWAII 5-0

MURDER EYES ONLY PT. II

In this second part!! McGarrett pursues gang and catches its members while chief escapes.

AND MOTHER MAKES FIVE

For richer for poorer

Increase in house expenses obliges mother to look for extra source of income. She bets on horses but loses.

LIFE AND TIMES OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN

The meaning of victory

Mountbatten rules South East Asia. Political, economic and social problems face him. He also combats extremist nationalist movements.

Where to lunch and dine Today

New Matouk Restaurant

Jebel Amman, Third Circle. Tel. 42424. Speciality Shawarma, Shashlik & Shish Kebab. Take away or lunch and dine.

For advertising in above columns kindly contact "Sout wa Soura" Tel. 38869. Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Under new Swedish management.

Firas Wings Hotel Jebel L'Weibdeh - Amman. Tel. 22103/4. Choice three set menus daily lunch and a La Carte. Open for lunch 12-3 p.m. and dinner 7-11 p.m. K. ly book your table.

First Circle, Jebel Amman. Tel. 25592 — Open 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. — restaurant, snack bar, coffee shop, patisseries.

CHINESE restaurant

Jebel Amman, near Abayeh School or CMS, Tel. 38968. Open daily from noon to 3.30 p.m. and p.m. to midnight.



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Now you can experience the famous
comfort and care of the world's largest
international airline.

British Airways serves almost
200 cities—more than any other
airline. From London alone, we can
take you to over 80 cities in Europe
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Our majestic Super VC10 offers
you the fastest way to London—non-
stop every Monday.

It leaves Amman at 0655 and gets you to
London by 1005—in time for connecting
flights to Europe and North America.

So fly British Airways soon.
And have a Superflight.

British airways

We'll take more care of you.



Spain's government OKs regional demands

BARCELONA, Feb. 21, (AP). — In an effort to defuse regional tensions, the Spanish government has approved a plan making political and economic concessions to industrial Catalonia.

The plan was approved here yesterday at a cabinet meeting presided over by King Juan Carlos. The choice of the Catalan capital as the site for the government's first cabinet session outside of Madrid was in itself a nod toward regionalism.

The meeting was also the occasion for the king's first bit of public advice to the cabinet. He told the ministers their decisions here should have "a special significance, marking the importance that must be given to each and every one of the regions which make up our country as a whole."

The hard-working Catalans have always resented the fact that they contribute far more than their share to the national wealth. In return, they complain, the centralized power in Madrid too often sends in "alien" administrators to rule their industrial region instead of choosing local men, squelches the Catalan culture, and grants only a dribble of economic benefits.

The government plan went a step toward meeting each of these standing grievances.

First was a proposal for a special administrative regime for the four Catalan provinces (Barcelona, Gerona, Tarragona and Lerida). A committee was assigned to start work immediately on recommendations for "measures and solutions which satisfy the legitimate aspirations of Catalonia."

The cabinet also agreed to submit to the Cortes (Parliament) a bill "to protect and encourage autochthonous cultural expression," particularly language.

In this same spirit, the government made a gesture to Spain's other most active nation-within-a-nation: It issued a decree recognizing the legal existence of a "Royal Academy of the Basque Language," which will apply in the provinces of Guipuzcoa, Vizcaya, Alava and Navarra.

Finally, the political steps were accompanied by a socio-economic complement to stimulate employment and improve the regional infrastructure.

Some 10,000 million pesetas (\$ 150 million) were earmarked for building new highways and improving existing roads, modernizing port facilities, spreading irrigation networks, and building new jails and hospitals in the northeastern region.

U.K. football roundup Liverpool shares lead

LONDON, Feb. 21, (R). — Goals by Kevin Keegan and Jimmy Case for a 2-0 win over Newcastle United swept Liverpool into a two points lead at the top of the First Division of the English football league today.

Queen's Park Rangers, London's only championship contenders, took over second place from Manchester United on goal average when they beat Ipswich Town 3-1 while United were losing 2-1 on the ground of struggling Aston Villa, who gained their first victory this year.

Champions Derby County beat West Ham United 2-1 on the London club's ground to join Queen's Park Rangers and Manchester United on 40 points, two below Liverpool. Only these four seem to have much of a chance now of winning the league title.

At the bottom of the table, Arsenal and Wolverhampton Wanderers improved their prospects of avoiding relegation by defeating two other teams in the danger zone, Birmingham City and Burnley.

Liam Brady scored just on halftime to give Arsenal a 1-0 win over Birmingham. Wolverhampton, scoring twice in three minutes in the second half, beat Burnley 3-2.

Sheffield United, who last week gained only their second league win of the season, earned another point with a 1-1 draw at Leicester, but are rock bottom in the table with 12 points. Burnley have 20 points, Wolverhampton 21 and Birmingham 22.

The meeting is expected to discuss the budget of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and the situation in the French-administered territory of Afars and Issas following border clashes between French and Somali troops, the Middle East News Agency reported.

They are also expected to discuss the dispute over the Western Sahara between Morocco and Algeria as well as the situation in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) and Namibia (South Western Africa).

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GOAL DENIED. — The Ipswich Town defence (white shirts) combines to rob Dave Thomas of Queens Park Rangers of the ball and a possible goal Saturday during a Division One football match at Loftus Road, London. (AP wirephoto).

Oil consumers, producers set to analyse world energy scene

PARIS, FEB. 20, (AFP). — Major oil producers and consumers are to start a general analysis of world energy market trends when the four commissions of the Conference on International Economic Cooperation (CIEC) meet here for their next session on March 17, reliable sources said today.

The sources said the general analysis will include a study of the implications of the energy situation for the world economy as a whole.

This work will be carried out by the CIEC's 15-member energy commission co-chaired by Saudi Arabia and the United States.

Canada, Japan, Switzerland and the European Economic Community are the other representatives of the industrialised world on this panel.

The Commission also groups five oil producers—Algeria, Iran, Iraq and Venezuela in addition to Saudi Arabia—and an equal number of non-oil developing countries including India, Brazil and Zaire.

Sources close to the commission said the working programme hammered out by the 15 delegations in ten days of talks here would also include discussion of energy prices, supply and international cooperation in this field.

Since this is the first time that oil producers and consumers have come together to discuss energy problems "we had to begin from scratch," one official said.

For that reason the delegates had to discuss the approach to the problems "very carefully," the official added.

He said the Third World countries on the commission considered that the talks so far had been "very useful."

Gulf's 120 wells in mostly in Cabinda and the mouth of the Zaire of the main part of Africa producing 140,000 bbl a day, over seven per cent of the world's total production.

There are attempts made to get some talk a corporation spokesman.

Gulf Oil suspended operations and evacuated personnel on Dec. 22 because the Angolan civil war which the Soviet-supplied LA has now emerged as a dominant party, its government recognised by over 100 countries.

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MPLA issue precipitates Portuguese cabinet crisis

LISBON, Feb. 21 (R). — Portugal's second biggest political party today made clear it would not vote for government recognition of the People's Republic of Angola, threatening a crisis in the coalition here.

The centrist Popular Democrats made their stand public a few hours before the cabinet was due to hold a special session to decide whether Portugal will recognise the Soviet-supported Popular Front (MPLA) government in its former colony — an administration which has won widespread international recognition.

A party spokesman said President Francisco Da Costa Gomes and Portugal's supreme political body, the Military Council of the Revolution, were extremely worried that it might resign from the coalition over the issue.

The Military Council yesterday announced it had reached a unanimous agreement on the major political diplomatic issue dividing the coalition — and a spokesman said the 19 officers were in favour of recognition.

The Popular Democrats said the party only decide on its position after the cabinet issue had been debated in government.

There are already 420,000 Angolan refugees in Portugal. Most blame the MPLA for their plight and are not to antagonise the main force for Portuguese recognition.

Gulf Oil seeks MPLA support to reopen oil fields.

PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania 21 (AFP). — Gulf Oil to make contact with the Angolan People's Liberation Movement (MPLA) government conditions for resuming production in the former Portuguese colony, it was learned today.

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Scranton says U.S. must have pull with both sides in M.E.

TEL AVIV, Feb. 21, (R). — Mr. William Scranton, tipped to be the next American ambassador to the United Nations, today said the United States must have influence with both Israel and the Arab States to help achieve peace in the Middle East.

"As I have often said—it is extremely important for the U.S. to have influence with both parties in the conflict otherwise the U.S. will not be able to perform the job of helping to achieve peace and help get the military security Israel so rightfully deserves."

Mr. Scranton also condemned the U.N. resolution equating Zionism with racism, saying: "It was completely irresponsible and wrong and I am proud of the American opposition to it."

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Ford nominates NATO ambassador

(Continued from Page 1)

He was later Ambassador to Belgium and was appointed to his post in Stockholm in 1974.

During the second World War he served with the Operation of Strategic Services (OSS), the forerunner of CIA.

with Japan, Iran, India and other nations, but the agreement signed today is the first with a Latin American country.

Dr. Kissinger told reporters the two countries had agreed to form a group to deal with energy questions, in addition to previously arranged groups on the transfer of U.S. technology to Brazil and on Brazilian — U.S. trade questions.

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Alcohol ban called to break strike

REYKJAVIK, Feb. 21 (AFP). — The sale of alcohol was suspended here today for the duration of a general strike affecting some 40,000 workers which began nearly a week ago.

The effects of the strike are already being felt. Public transportation is operating only six hours out of 24 because of a shortage of gasoline, and there is a dwindling supply of milk reserved for children.

The tense situation created by the strike for higher wages has also been influenced by the cold war with Britain which resulted this week in Iceland's breaking off diplomatic relations with London.

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